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12-11-01  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Yoichi FUJII et al.

Serial No. : Rule 1.53 Divisional  
Application of USSN 09/333,521  
Prior Group Art Unit: 1648

Filed : Concurrently Herewith

Title : NEF-ATTACHABLE PROTEIN, DNA ENCODING THE  
PROTEIN AND A MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY AGAINST  
SAID PROTEIN

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

With reference to the above-identified patent application, please amend the  
application prior to issuance of the first Office Action.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION", please insert the following  
paragraph:

--This application is a Divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/333,521, filed  
June 15, 1999.--

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 27 as shown in clean form:

27. (Amended) A method to diagnose the development of AIDS comprising  
using a DNA molecule which encodes a protein represented by SEQ ID NO:1 or which